T H E P A N I C U L U M

Disoriented Jet-Lag Welcome Edition

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No. 1, Monday 26th of June 2023

Calendar:

Mon June 26th	Student Arrival Day - Check-in at the Porter's Lodge 1:00pm Lunch, Dining Hall 2:00pm Christchurch Meadow Stroll with Joan 6:30 Dinner, Dining Hall
Tues, June 27th	Registration Day. 9:00am Making the Most of the Bodleian Library, Oakeshott Room 10:00am Introduction to the Lincoln College Library 10:50am Meet at Porter's Lodge (with passports!) to walk to the Bodleian Library 11:00am Bodleian Registration, Bodleian Convocation House 1:00pm Lunch 2:30pm Mentor-Hosted Strawberry Social 3:30-4:30pm Campus and Town Tours 6:00pm Opening Ceremonies 6:30pm Drinks on Grove Quad 7:15pm Dinner
Weds June 28th	Classes begin
Thurs June 29th	5:00pm Senior Meeting, Deep Hall

Monday is Arrival Day. The only thing you need to accomplish on Monday is arriving. Great job! You did it![1] Everything else is optional. (We know you feel like crap. It's OK.)

If you somehow magically don't feel like crap there are some optional activities available to you. At 2pm, meet Joan at the Bread Loaf office for a stroll through beautiful Christchurch Meadow. Along the way she can impart many pearls of wisdom, including 1) where to buy toothpaste, 2) where to buy coffee, and 3) probably something historical, if you ask nicely.

After dinner, feel free to join your fellow Loafers on Grove Quad, which is the quad where you are allowed to walk on the grass. (You can find it by looking for the only grass that looks like it has been walked on.) There will be a Bocce set available, if anyone is still able to stand up. You can also just go lie down, if that's what you need.

[1] Actually, as this edition of the Paniculum went to press, there were at least five people detained due to flight and train cancellations. If you haven't arrived, you still get an A for effort.

The Bread Loaf Office is open in Chapel Quad, at the foot of Staircase 7. We have a vast collection of things left behind by past BLOXers, including fans, lamps, teapots, and a few yoga mats. We also have a special promotion on Bread Loaf patches (they just arrived from Vermont!) Bread Loaf coloring books (they arrived from Vermont last year!) and copies of *101 Dalmations* (it's a long story.)

Tuesday is Registration Day. If you're here, you're already registered. Great job *again*! You're just racking up the participation trophies this year, and classes haven't even started!

There are, however, some things you have to do on Tuesday, since we assume you will have slept at least a little by then. Here they are, in order of required-ness:

*Highly Required***:**

1) The three-part library extravaganza begins at 9am sharp in the Oakeshott Room. This is very important because, well, it's the library and you're in graduate school. Nervous you might get lost? Don't be. Emily, Joan, librarians and/or other BLOX veterans will be there to herd you around/show you where to go for each step.
2) The opening ceremonies begin at 5:30pm in the Oakeshott room. (Pop Quiz: Where's the Oakeshott room? If you had been to your library orientation, *you would know that already*.) This is followed by drinks on Grove Quad and dinner. Wear something nice. More on that later.

Highly Recommended:

1) At 2:30pm, the Bread Loaf mentor team will be hosting a gathering on Grove Quad. There will be strawberries and cream, and people who want to meet you.
2) At 3:30pm Emily and/or Joan will be running a campus and town tour. Meet us in the office.

Things you do not need to do on Registration Day:

1) Register.
2) Drop by the Bread Loaf office and ask if, like, you're supposed to register or something?

There are no COVID restrictions this year. Go ahead and breathe on people.

You have already joined BreadWeb. You should actually log in and start using it. You have to use your Middlebury email.

Meals are served in the dining hall at the following times on weekdays:

Breakfast: 8am
Lunch: 1pm
Dinner: 6:30pm (7:15 for formal dinners)

On Sundays ONLY, breakfast moves to 8:45am.

Off-Campus People have to pay for regular everyday meals, but are invited to attend formal dinners free of charge (including the opening dinner this Tuesday.)

Formal Dinner: The opening dinner on Tuesday is a traditional formal dinner with a high table. Here are some guidelines:

- ★ Wear something nice. No shorts, ripped jeans, etc.
- ★ Following the introduction and drinks reception, the butler will invite us into dinner by ringing a bell. Enter the hall and remain standing behind the bench until we are all invited to sit.
- ★ You should have registered your dietary restrictions a few weeks ago. Your server will likely confirm this with you once you are seated. If you have NOT registered your dietary needs, you will be served a regular, meaty, gluten-filled meal. The chef prepares a certain number of vegetarian and special meals ahead of time depending on the information we have provided, so **please don't steal someone else's meal**.
- ★ Please don't leave until all courses are finished.
- ★ There will be an abundance of wine. Pace yourself. You have been warned.

Laundry Cards should have been included with the paperwork you received when you checked in. You top them up online, and the machines are available in the basement of Staircase 8.

Safety: Please be mindful as you walk around, and do lock your doors and windows. If you'd like to store your passport or other valuables in the office safe, bring it on by. (Just remember to retrieve it during office hours before you leave the country.)

The Porters are the friendly people who greeted you upon arrival. The place where they work is called **the lodge**. They can help you with a plethora of things, including room keys, stamping and sending your mail, giving directions, etc. It's also nice to introduce yourself, so they have a sense of who is here for the summer.

Deep Hall is your friendly on-campus pub. You enter via the staircase from Grove Quad. The drinks are subsidized by the British government! However, it is currently closed because Simon, the manager, had a canceled flight. Someday soon we'll all go for drinks.

THE PANICULUM

The "Check Your Middlebury Email" Edition

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No. 2, Thursday 29th of June, 2023

Calendar:

Thurs June 29th **All Day** You, Checking your Middlebury email, Wherever you happen to be
5:00pm Senior Meeting, Deep Hall

Fri June 30th Take a nap, Read some stuff. Check your Middlebury email some more.

Looking ahead…

This weekend is Alice Day! This is a chance to attend many events for all ages, and/or a chance to sit around town and watch people in wild costumes walk around.

On Monday July 3rd in the Langford Room (next to the Oakeshott), Shelby Knighten will be hosting an event. Here's the information, directly from Shelby:

Need some ways to enliven your Shakespeare teaching? Join Nicole Dingwall and Victoria Elliott, English education faculty in Oxford's Department of Education, for an hour-long active participation workshop trying out some practical and fun activities for the teaching of Shakespeare drawing from the Royal Shakespeare Company's Active Methods principles.

On July 4th there will be a picnic in Grove Quad to celebrate our independence from the English. After you have food, feel free to make your way down to Deep Hall and celebrate with some liquor subsidized by the British government.

On July 6th, there will be a tour of Lincoln College, led by Susan Harrison, Lincoln's Development Director. Some of you have already taken multiple tours, but this is the real-deal historical tour, led by an expert. It is limited to 20 people, however, and it is first-come, first-serve. You can sign up for the event on BreadWeb, which is a great reason to join BreadWeb if you haven't already.

On the evening of July 12th, we will all be going to see *As You Like It* at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon. This is the one and only All-School Play. You have already paid for it, and Stephen Berenson pulled strings from across the Atlantic to get us the best seats possible. There will be a bus that leaves at 11am for those who want many hours to shop for Shakespeare-themed tea towels, and a bus that leaves at 3pm for those who aren't sure what to do with a tea towel in the first place, but still want time for a drink. If you want a spot on the first bus, you'll want to sign up (Joan will send a form soon, which is a reason to check your Middlebury email.) Also, if you know that you aren't planning to attend, please let us know so that we can offer seats to people on the waitlist (ie, spouses of Loafers.)

This is your friendly reminder to keep the noise level down in the evenings after 10pm. Did you know that the buildings at Lincoln College are stone? And when noise reverberates off of stone, it becomes possible for literally every person at Lincoln (and maybe Brasenose) to hear every single thing you say? So maybe keep that in mind.

On a related note, we're now taking submissions for the "Overheard in Grove Quad" section of the Paniculum. Email ezdyrko@middlebury.edu from your Middlebury email.

Here is Everything You Need To Know About Meals:

1) Breakfast is at 8am Mon-Sat and 8:45am on Sundays. Lunch is 1pm. Dinner is at 6:30pm every night except formal dinners.
2) If you are on the meal plan, all meals are included. If you would like to bring a guest who is not on the meal plan, you can pay for that guest in the Bread Loaf office. If you are not on the meal plan, only formal dinners are included in your tuition and you must pay for other meals. Here are the current meal prices:

Breakfast	£8.30
Lunch	£15.72
Dinner	£18.17
Formal dinner	£30.43
Graduation dinner	£41.50

3) Stay tuned for a survey that asks for your feedback on dining services. It will be sent to **your Middlebury email.**

Who Should I Ask?

If you have a maintenance issue with your room (ie, leaky faucet, clogged toilet, burned out lightbulb) you should go to the **Porter's Lodge.**

If you have an academic issue (ie, DRW, registration, etc) there are a variety of people you can speak to, including **your tutor, Gail Borden in Vermont, Jeri,** and a wide variety of wonderfully helpful **librarians.**

If you have a question about meals, events, graduation, general BLOX logistics, or you're not sure where to go and need to be pointed in the right direction, **ask Emily and/or Joan in the office.**

If you need to print, check the instructions you got from IT upon check in, or go **across the street to Lincoln House**, where there is a computer lab, complete with computers hooked up to a printer.

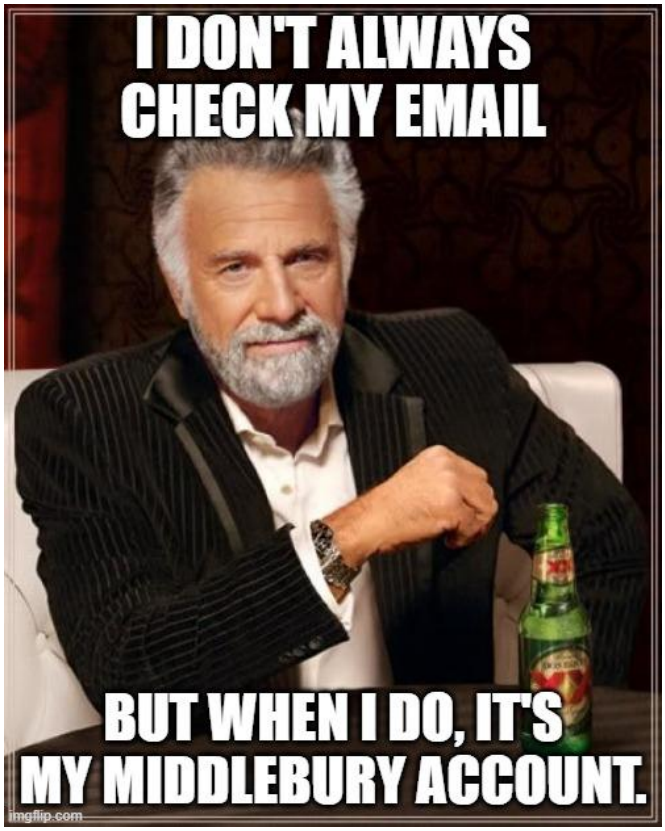
If you need a fan for your room, go to John Lewis in the mall, or amazon.co.uk.

If you need a drink on a Tues-Fri evening, you should go to **Deep Hall.** Simon has returned from Spain and the bar is open.

If you need to see a dead naked Romantic poet, you should go to University College and check out the Percy Shelley Memorial.

If you want to see Bill Clinton, you should have been **in the Covered Market on the morning of Thursday June 29th with Tamsen Wolff.** Yes, seriously, that happened for real, but we missed it too.

And finally, a message from the mountain:



THE PANICULUM

"Exit Pursued By a Fox"[1] Edition

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No. 3, Monday the 3rd of July, 2023

Calendar:

Monday, July 3rd	5:00pm SHAKESPEARE WORKSHOP CANCELED
	5:15 BLTN Meeting
Tuesday, July 4th	6:30pm 4th of July Picnic, Grove Quad

We apologize that today's active teaching of Shakespeare workshop has been canceled due to an ~~outbreak of the plague~~ illness. You'll have to stick with passive teaching of Shakespeare until it can be rescheduled.

Everyone is welcome at the 4th of July picnic! On campus people, Off campus people, and family members- you're all welcome, and you don't have to pay. Yes, that's right- unlike most things in America, it doesn't cost any money.

Tomorrow is the deadline to request a spot on the early bus to Stratford on July 12th. Email/message Joan.

And tomorrow is the deadline to submit a t-shirt design. Email/message Joan.

And tomorrow is probably too late to sign up for the Lincoln College History tour with Susan Harrison. Don't email Joan! Sign up on BreadWeb. At the time of publication, there were only three spots left.

On Thursday July 6th at 4pm, Shelby Knighten, MA '16 will be giving a talk on applying to doctoral programs. You may know Shelby as the friendly Loafer of Staircase 11, but in reality he lives a double life, studying on both sides of Turl Street. (He is a doctoral student at Jesus College. Also, maybe he is Batman. You'll have to come to the talk to find out!)

The Junior Common Room has coffee, tea, and fridges. The coffee and tea are after meals, and the fridges are there all the time! Go ahead, buy that yogurt! Just please don't be the scoundrel that eats someone else's yogurt.

Did you know that we have a computer lab? It's in Lincoln House, across Turl Street. It's on what the British call the first floor. You might want to use the printer there, because the printer in the Bread Loaf office currently needs some kind of assistance, possibly an exorcism. (It will print

[1] If you're thinking "wtf? What fox?" you haven't checked your Middlebury email.

your document, but it will also print ten to fifteen pages of garbled nonsense every time you turn it on.) It may have been bitten by a fox.

And finally, the answer to the most frequently asked of all of the FAQs:

If someone needs to mail you something, here is the address:

[Your Name]

Bread Loaf School of English

Lincoln College

Turl Street, Oxford

OX1 3DR, United Kingdom

T H E P A N I C U L U M

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No.4 , Thursday the 6th of July, 2023

Calendar:

Thursday, July 6th	2:00pm Lincoln College Historical Tour CANCELLED due to illness.
	2:00pm Afro-Caribbean Ashmolean tour with Conrad James IS ON!
	(Meet at Porter's Lodge at 1:45pm)
	4:00pm Applying to PhD programs, with Shelby Knighten, Oakeshott
	6:00pm Students of Color Meeting, Deep Hall
Friday, July 7th	Nothing is happening today! Take a nap.
Sunday, July 9th	2:00pm Caribbean Living Room Field Trip with Conrad James

The Lincoln College Historical Tour is cancelled due to illness. At this rate, if you value your health and safety, we cannot recommend that you plan a Bread Loaf event. Nonetheless, a few brave souls have decided to press on despite the risks, including:

Conrad James is offering the Afro-Caribbean Oxford Museum tour today at almost the same time as the cancelled Lincoln history tour. Meet at the porter's lodge at 1:45pm, and you'll walk to the Ashmolean together. You'll be viewing this exhibit, which responds to a recent research project examining how wealth from slaveholders influenced Oxford from the 18th Century through the present day.

Shelby Knighten will be giving a talk on applying to doctoral programs at 4pm today in the Oakeshott Room. Shelby's colleagues may have been felled by illness, but Shelby is unafraid. He is just *that dedicated* to informing you of potential educational opportunities. I told you he might be Batman.[1]

The Bread Loaf Students of Color are meeting this Thursday and subsequent Thursdays at 6pm in Deep Hall.

Conrad James is also running a trip to the Caribbean Living Room Exhibit in Cowley this Sunday, July 9th. Meet at the porter's lodge at 1:45 and you'll travel there together. This trip is open to all, and Conrad has arranged for the exhibit to open that day specifically for Bread Loaf. Conrad's trips are open to all, even those who are not in his class.

[1] To be fair, I also told you he graduated in 2016, and that was completely wrong. He graduated in 2022.

That's it for this week's events- stay tuned for more excitement next week, including a cameo appearance by Emma Smith, a visit to the Forest of Arden, and Quiz Night in Deep Hall on Friday the 14th. In the meantime, here are some things to keep in mind:

If you are not on the meal plan, then you have to pay for meals in the Lincoln Dining Hall. If you are on the meal plan, you have already paid for meals. So basically, nobody *doesn't* pay for meals. If you just pay us in the office, we won't have to shake you down for cash. We'd hate to have to do that.

Fobs are not transferable, even to people you are married to. You may have stood before everyone you know and declared that you share everything as long as you both shall live, but you should amend that to sharing everything *except a Lincoln College fob.*

The Bread Loaf Printer seems to be working again. It hasn't spewed nonsense in several days, though the word from Mike White is that it may have printed some things in Greek instead. Now that we mention it, it seems like it might be developing a capability for language at a remarkable speed. However, if you're willing to brave it, print away! Here's the link. Your username is bread and your password is Oxford2023.

The Bread Loaf Journal is accepting submissions through July 10th at midnight, which is July 11th at 5am to you. The link to submit is on BreadWeb, and the theme is Renewal.

Office Hours are 9am to 3pm Monday-Thursday and 9am- 1:00pm on Fridays. You can drop by during earlier or later hours, but you may or may not catch us. It depends on how many fires we're puttin out that day. If you have a question outside of business hours, send us a message on BreadWeb.

We have rapid COVID tests in the office for anyone who would like one. Also, despite what we said last week, maybe try not to breathe on people unnecessarily.

T H E P A N I C U L U M

Shakespeare Edition

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No.5, Monday the 10th of July, 2023

Calendar:

Monday, July 10th	5:15pm BLTN Teachers Teaching Teachers, JCR
	10:00pm (EST) Bread Loaf Journal Submission Deadline
Tuesday, July 11th	5:00pm Emma Smith, "Woke Will," Oakeshott
Wednesday, July 12th	7:15pm All-School Play, *As You Like It,* Stratford-upon-Avon

Tonight, a big group of Bread Loafers is going to observe and discuss troubled teenagers with mental health problems, and a different group is going to meet and talk about post-Covid teaching struggles. **That's right- BLTN's Teachers Teaching Teachers event is happening at 5:15pm in the JCR.** All are welcome! You can share wisdom about something that worked brilliantly in your classroom post-COVID, or you can share something else. (Most of us are going to share something else. It's been a weird few years.)

On Tuesday July 11th at 5pm, Emma Smith is coming to talk about Shakespeare. Her talk is called "Woke Will: Shakespeare and the Culture Wars." ICYMI, Emma Smith is a big deal. She is a fellow at Hertford College, the author of several books, and even has a Wikipedia page! And a podcast! If Emma Smith says Will was Woke, she is probably right. Come hear her talk in the Oakeshott Room.

Wednesday the 12th is the All School Play. Here is what you need to know:

There are two coaches, one at 11am, and one at 3pm. They both leave from Catte Street, near the Bodleian. If you haven't spoken with Joan about the 11am bus, you should assume you are on the 3pm bus. If you have spoken with Joan about the 11am bus but now can't make it, please let us know. No matter what bus you take, we have a ticket to play for you! If you are on the meal plan, we will give you cash to purchase dinner in Stratford! If you have a spouse on the waiting list, they have a ticket! If you stay here at Lincoln, you'll be sent to bed without any dinner, because the kitchen is closed.

It is approximately a 1-hour drive to Stratford upon Avon. When you arrive, you can see where he was born, where he is buried, and lots of places where he did other stuff. You can also see

Anne Hathaway's home, which is of special interest to anyone who particularly enjoyed ~~*The Princess Diaries*~~ Maggie O'Farrell's award-winning novel *Hamnet.*

The play begins at **7:15pm** at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, which is right by the river. There are many good restaurants nearby, though I would suggest avoiding the ones by the river with cutesy Shakespeare names.

Here is a Synopsis of *As You Like It*:

When the play opens, two separate sets of brothers are having sibling rivalry issues. Duke Frederick has usurped his older brother, the aptly named Duke Senior. Duke Senior has gone to live in the woods, but his daughter has been allowed to remain at court to hang out with her cousin and friend Celia. Meanwhile, two sons of the recently deceased Roland de Boys, Oliver and Orlando, are not getting along either. They decide to sort out their troubles with wrestling while their third brother, Jacques, wanders off to the woods to be melancholy and possibly vegan.

Rosalind and Orlando catch one another's eye right away- but this is followed almost immediately by Rosalind's banishment from the kingdom, due to her father's feud with his brother. Rosalind heads into the forest disguised as a boy named Ganymede, accompanied by Celia and the fool Touchstone. (I never go camping without my fool.)

After quite a bit of banter and flirtation in the forest, it is clear that Rosalind and Orlando have fallen for each other, though he still doesn't know her true gender identity. Meanwhile, a young woman named Phoebe has also fallen for Rosalind/Ganymede, a young man named Silvius has fallen for her, and Touchstone has fallen for a shepherdess named Audrey. Jacques has fallen for nobody and continues to be emo.

This production of *As You Like It* features older actors playing younger characters in addition to the usual woman-disguised-as-man plot points. It's worth remembering that in Elizabethan times, all the characters would have been played by men, making Rosalind a man playing a woman disguised as a man, occasionally imitating the woman that she is.

Basically, this play is the original drag queen story hour. OK, Emma Smith, I'm starting to get your point.

After the All-School play, the week quiets down a bit, but don't forget that **Simon's Deep Hall Pub Quiz is this Friday, July 14th.** Start to prepare your teams!

In more mundane news, **we basically have no idea wtf is up with the bread loaf printer.** It might print your paper. It might speak in tongues. It might do both. But whatever, give it a shot. Here's the link. Your username is bread and your password is Oxford2023. And if it doesn't work, we'll give you some fruit pastille gummies as a consolation prize. (Seriously, we have boxes full.)

If you really want printed material instead of candy, then exit the porter's lodge onto Turl Street, look for Norah's Antiques, find the door to the right labelled "Lincoln House," swipe in with your fob, walk up one flight of stairs, and - PRINT! The last person we sent over there gave it a five star review on yelp. 9/10 Loafers would recommend it to a friend. The 10th person needed a stapler, which we're working on.

Please check your Middlebury email. Please. Somewhere, buried among extreme weather alerts for Vermont is important information, like the weekly meal schedule. Speaking of meals, the kitchen would love your feedback, and you can provide that here.

T H E P A N I C U L U M

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No 6, Thursday the 13th of July, 2023

Calendar:

Thursday, July 13th	6:00pm Students of Color Meeting, Deep Hall
	8:30 Feast of Yeast Reading, Deep Hall
Friday, July 14th	7:00 Simon's Pub Quiz, Deep Hall

Status Updates:

Lincoln House Printer: Good Service

Bread Loaf Printer: (Miraculously!) Good Service

Bread Loaf Office: Good Service, as long as the coffee doesn't run out

Your Next Paper: Expect delays

Pub Quiz is tomorrow night in Deep Hall. Teams will begin to gather after dinner, and we'll begin once everyone has chosen an appropriately inappropriate team name. Start to form your teams now, because there are only about three people here that are good at the sports category, and they are probably already taken.

The winner of the Bread Loaf T-shirt contest is Brenna Thummler! She won for her lovely image of Grove Quad. Keep an eye out for an email with instructions about how to order your very own BLOX t-shirt. Also coming soon: BLOX tote bags with a beautiful design from Dana Olsen. Joan has spent years refining the BLOX t-shirt experience, so we hope you'll take advantage. And if you buy her a gin and tonic, she'll regale you with the saga of the 2018 purple-headed Alices in Wonderland.

The Annual Bread Loaf Conference is happening in *one week!* It will take place on July 20th and 21st, and it is run by Shelby Knighten. Expect more information from him ASAP, but he's in class and I'm working on a deadline[1]. The most important thing to know is that this is a really wonderful event and it is OK to submit work in progress.

[1] Kind of.

Seriously-it's so soon that you don't even have time to think about submitting something- **you have to just do it without thinking**. It's like that time in Vermont I jumped from some rocks into a swimming hole- I just had to do it.

OK, that's a lie. I didn't actually go through with it. Murky water freaks me out. I was the only one in the entire group who climbed down from the rocks in my bathing suit instead of jumping. And then I signed up to go to BLOX the next year. I have no regrets. Which brings me to the most important part of my point: *submitting to the Bread Loaf conference is actually a much better idea than jumping into a swimming hole.* You have a zero percent chance of drowning and a 100 percent chance of exchanging ideas with other lovely and brilliant people.

That's it for important announcements, so we have some time for:

Fun Things to Do in Oxford!

Uncomfortable Oxford runs a variety of walking tours around town that focus on the untold stories of the city. They are staffed and run by History students, and they promise to "Take you beyond traditional narratives, highlighting histories of race, gender, class, and legacies of empire." They have a general tour in addition to ones that are focused on more specific topics (ie, the Ashmolean, money, etc.)

Punting is a kind of boating in which you use a big giant stick to push yourself along the river. It's not always the most efficient way of actually getting around, but it's a really efficient way to strand yourself in the middle of the river so you have no choice but to have a picnic and some wine while you ponder the fact that you may need someone to rescue you. Or, if you don't bring wine, it's a really efficient way to get into an argument with your partner/friend/child about whose fault it is that you are stranded in the middle of the river. You can also just hire someone to punt you around, but honestly, that's cheating.

Use your Bodleian card to try to get into places where you might not really be allowed. Like other colleges, for example. It's always worth a shot. Besides, Jeri already told you that you're not a tourist. So this is really not cheating as long as you aren't a schmuck. Like, don't wander into the JCR and take pictures of the DVD collection.[2]

The Pitt Rivers Museum is a totally eclectic mixture of artifacts from around the world, organized by purpose instead of geographic region. It's fascinating and weird. It's both a relic of colonialism as well as a really interesting example of how museums are dealing with the legacy of colonialism. Oh, and it was in His Dark Materials. (Both the books and HBO series.)

[2] I actually saw this happen once. Also, there used to be a sign in front of the Bread Loaf office, but it mostly served to draw in wandering tourists who wanted to know why there was an office for bread. There is no sign anymore, and that is OK.

THE PANICULUM

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No 7, Monday the 17th of July, 2023

Calendar:

Monday, July 17th	5:15 BLTN Meeting
Tuesday, July 18th	5:00 Ros Ballaster Lecture, "Queeriod Drama," Oakeshott Room
	6:15 Drinks Reception, Grove Quad
	7:15 Formal Dinner, Hall

Weather Forecast:

Sunshine: Plentiful! (Finally)

Temperature: Something in Celsius. (We don't know what! We don't understand Celsius!)

Large Groups of Teenagers with Backpacks: 100% chance, all the freaking time.

Emails from Vermont about Vermont stuff: Highly likely (in your Middlebury inbox.)

Ros Ballaster will be lecturing at 5pm in the Oakshott Room, tomorrow. Professor Ballaster is a faculty member at Mansfield College, Oxford. Her talk on "Queeriod Drama" will cover the TV series Gentleman Jack and the recent film The Favourite, which may or may not be in the JCR on DVD, but is definitely available on Amazon and (weirdly) Disney Plus. Once you've watched it, you'll definitely want to switch your Disney Plus logon icon to Olivia Colman as Queen Anne. Or maybe a rabbit named Hildebrand. Watch the movie.

The lecture will be followed by a drinks reception in Grove Quad (I'm tempting fate by saying that- but there is no rain in the forecast) and formal dinner. (It's lamb)

You may think you have missed the deadline for the Bread Loaf Conference, but you haven't! Shelby is still accepting proposals via BreadWeb until midnight. So no, you are not off the hook. You have no excuse. Do it now! You'll be glad you did.

You may think you have missed the deadline to order a t-shirt, but you haven't! That announcement on Saturday was from Vermont, and it confused everyone, even Jeri. If you mistakenly ordered a Vermont shirt (a lot of us did) we've contacted Vermont to straighten it out.

Joan sent the actual t-shirt order form yesterday, and it includes images of all of the award-winning artwork as well as a wide variety of color options.

Please don't cook or burn stuff in your room. No kitchen appliances, blenders, instant pots, or candles, even if they smell really nice. Electric tea kettles are just fine. Housekeeping has their eye on you, and will tell us if you break this rule.

That's it for important announcements related to Bread Loaf, so we'll just add one more important thing:

Train travel is going to be a total clusterf*ck in the coming days. Rail employees are not working overtime from today through Saturday, which will likely result in delays and limited train availability. On July 20th[1], July 22nd, and July 29th, there will be full-on strikes, which will mean almost no trains at all. Here's what the National Rail has to say about it.

[1] You aren't going anywhere on this day anyway, because it's the conference, and you're presenting! Right?

THE PANICULUM

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No 8, Thursday the 20th of July, 2023

Calendar:

Thursday, July 20th	5:30 Students of Color Meeting- Walking Tour
	8:30pm Rattles and Carols, Deep Hall
Friday, July 21st	9:30am-1:00pm Bread Loaf Academic Conference, Oakeshott Room
	7:15pm Surprise Party for Simon, Deep Hall (Shhh!)

Status Updates:

Rain: No. (Yay!)

National Rail: No. (Ugh.)

Bears: No. (But just in case, you're well informed!)

Tornadoes: No. (Whew.)

Potatoes: Yes. So many.

There are so many good reasons to go to Deep Hall this week! Tonight, you can hear your fellow Loafers read their wonderful work at 8:30pm. Tomorrow night, you can celebrate Simon's birthday with cake and drinks. (But don't tell him yet!) And any old time you can go and toast what is widely regarded as the best college bar[1] in Oxford.

The Annual Bread Loaf Academic Conference will take place TOMORROW. 7/21, from 9:30am to 1pm in the Oakeshott Room. There will be presentations on everything from vampires to *King Lear* to teaching middle school. And Oscar Wilde, in case you need some levity after those first three topics. There will also be coffee and biscuits. Please join us! The full schedule is posted on BreadWeb.

The Active Teaching of Shakespeare workshop has been rescheduled! Meet Shelby this coming Monday 7/24 at the porter's lodge at 1:25pm, and he will walk you to the secure location

[1] By Jeri. Also by Emily and Joan, though admittedly we've never gone to another Oxford College bar. But also, after many summers, we've never felt the need to go to another college bar, so that tells you something.

where the mysteries of the Bard will be revealed to you. Also, you'll get to see the Oxford Education department (OK, spoiler alert, that's the secure location. But none of us would be allowed in if Shelby didn't know the secret password.) The workshop will run from 1:45pm to 2:45pm.

Speaking of academic presentations, Isobel Armstrong will be our final lecturer of the summer next Tuesday. She's going to talk about William Morris's poem "Pilgrims of Hope." She can also tell you all about the often-forgotten political significance of William Morris's textile designs. You probably didn't even know about the secret history of your Waterstones tote bag. Be there on Tuesday to learn more!

Dean Emily Bartels will be holding BLOX office hours next week by Zoom. She still has openings available on Monday the 24th and Wednesday the 26th. Email or BreadWeb message non-Dean Emily (ezdyrko@middlebury.edu) and she can set up a meeting for you. This is a great chance to talk about your academic goals, or ask any important Bread Loaf questions you might have.[2]

That's it for BLSE announcements, so here is some other stuff FYI:

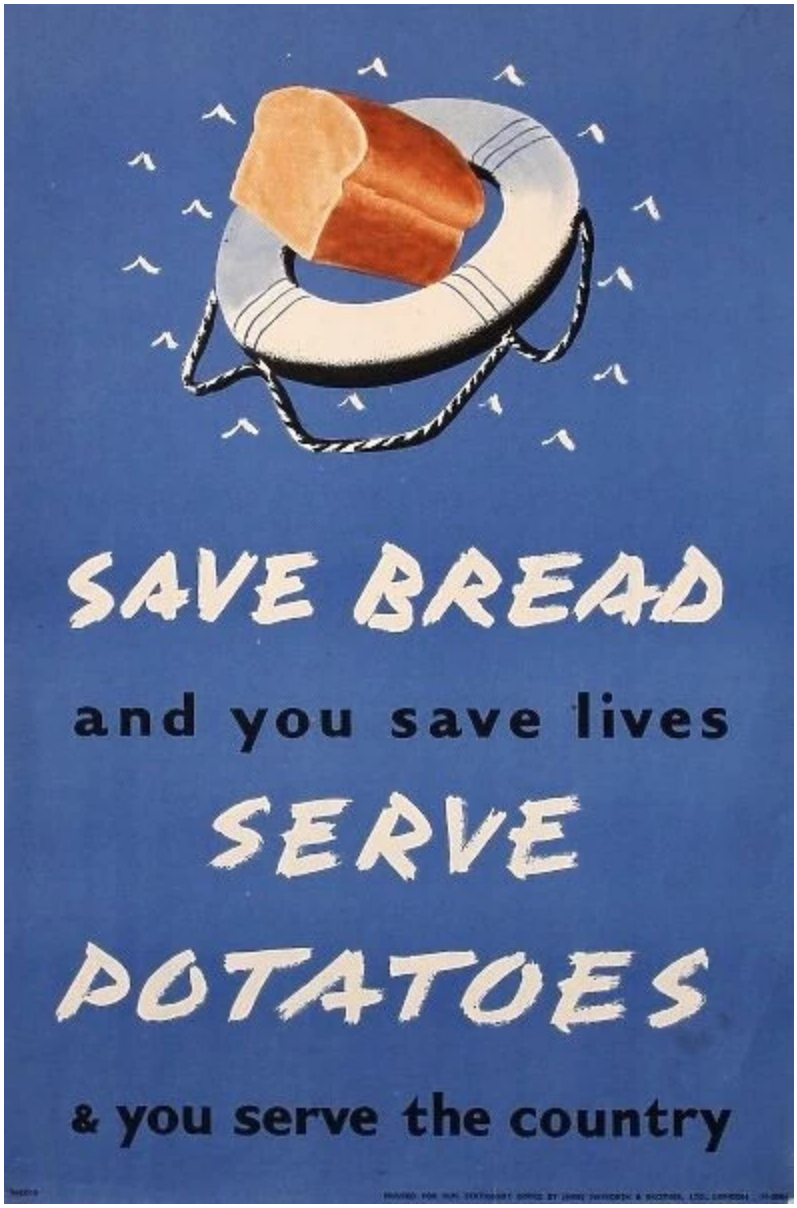
The trains are nonexistent, but you can still take the Oxford tube to London! The Oxford tube is not a tube, it's a coach, which is what you would probably call a bus. It's distinct from the London tube, which is actually a subterranean train known as the underground. But it's not a subway, because in the UK a subway is just a tunnel underground, not a vehicle. Hope that clears things up! Good luck!

If you decide to stay in, you could instead opt for an Oxford-themed movie night. Our faculty recommendation of the week comes from Francis Leneghan, and it's the 1984 film *Oxford Blues.* It features a "young American hustler "from Las Vegas, played by Rob Lowe, who joins the Oxford rowing team in hopes of winning the love of an English girl.

OK, fine, disclaimer, the word "recommendation" might be a little strong here. But Francis did in fact tell me that this film exists. He also said that it features Oxford scenery as well as a young Julian Sands (both promising elements, don't you think?) So take a study break and enjoy a movie that imdb user mandresgasa called "Only for fundamentalists of Rob."

Finally, as we send you off to enjoy the weekend, we will leave you with a message from our sponsor, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, circa early 1940s. (See the following page.)

[2] For example, you could ask "How can I protect my beehive from bear attacks?" But actually don't ask that, because it was already answered in your Middlebury email.


SAVE BREAD
and you save lives
SERVE
POTATOES
& you serve the country

THE PANICULUM

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 42, No.9, Monday the 25th of July 2022

Calendar: **Tuesday, July 26th**

5:00 pm Lecture Series: A Conversation with Polly Findlay, Oakeshott

6:00 Drinks Reception, Grove Quad

6:45pm Formal Dinner, Hall

Wednesday, July 27th

2:00pm-6:00pm BLOX Academic Conference, Oakshott

Editor's Note: We apologize for the delay. This edition of the Paniculum is brought to you from a train from Edinburgh. The wifi is spotty, the scenery is gorgeous, and we are easily distracted by sheep.

Anyway, back to Oxford…

There will be a lecture tomorrow, followed by drinks and formal dinner. Actually, it's probably going to be more of a conversation, but whatever it is, you don't want to miss it. Director Polly Findlay will be joining us. If you were here in 2018, you may remember her excellent production of *Macbeth*, which featured Christopher Eccleston as the title character, and terrifying little children as witches. She is also known for her acclaimed 2012 production of Antigone and the Olivier Award-winning 2011 production of *Svengali*. She's directed for the RSC and the National Theatre, and she's kind of a big deal[1].

If you really want to do your homework, all of those productions are available via streaming services. Click here, and here, and here. That's extra credit, though. It's OK if you just want to come to the lecture, listen, and have a drink in the general proximity of this very accomplished artist.

Don't drink TOO much on Tuesday, because the BLOX Academic Conference is on Wednesday. Schedule currently posted on BreadWeb. Come hear your classmates share their ideas. Oh, and if you do happen to be feeling groggy on Wednesday, there will be coffee, tea, and biscuits to keep you energized. I mean, there will also be a full panel of scintillating, brilliant and thought-provoking presentations to keep you energized. But just in case it helps, there will also be caffeine and sugar.

[1] This is basically true for everyone who's visiting us this summer.

There is still no COVID on campus. At least, none that we know about. If you want to prove us wrong, drop by the office to pick up a test.

Listen to whatever Joan tells you about t-shirts. Once upon a time, Joan did not manage the t-shirt process, and it was a mess.[2] Now she does, so read what she posts on BreadWeb and follow instructions.

Degree Days will be held THIS WEEK, on the 26th, 28th, and 29th. Please try not to photobomb the graduates, and be patient if some campus spaces are occupied.

And now, it's time for the Commencement FAQ!

Q: When is Commencement?
A: Saturday, August 6th, in the afternoon. It will be held in Lincoln Chapel, and it will be followed by a drinks reception and extra-fancy formal dinner.

Q: Who is invited to Commencement?
A: All BLOX students are invited to commencement! This final event is included free of charge for everyone, even if you are not graduating. Also, of course, faculty members, seniors and their guests will be there.

Q: Are guests invited free of charge?
A: No, guests have to pay. We'll be in touch soon about that process.

Q: But wait- won't space be limited? I heard there are limits on guests…
A: That's true- we're managing guest numbers due to COVID, and also because we have an extra-large senior class this year. Because of this, seniors and their guests will likely have first dibs on seats in the commencement ceremony in the chapel. However, we'll be streaming the ceremony via Youtube, so current students and extra guests will be able to watch from elsewhere on campus (likely Deep Hall or the JCR.)

Q: Can my uncle in Topeka watch Commencement?
A: Yes. Stay tuned for details on streaming.

[2] Some of us still own those rare collector's items, the BLOX tote bags featuring a purple-headed Alice in Wonderland.

Q: Will there be room for everyone at dinner?

A: If there isn't room in the Hall, we'll use overflow seating. (likely in the Buttery.)

Q: But wait, that makes me feel like I'm sitting at the kids table at family Thanksgiving!

A: Did your family have unlimited wine at the kid's table at Thanksgiving?

Q: Fair enough.

A: Also, if you were in Vermont, you'd be waiting tables. Don't complain.

T H E P A N I C U L U M

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No 10, Thursday the 27th of July, 2023

Calendar:

Thursday, July 27th 6:00pm Students of Color Meeting, Deep Hall

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Status Updates:

Bread Loaf T-shirts: Approaching!

Graduation Gowns: Ordered. Seniors, you owe us £20 in cash, in the office.

Graduation Seating Plan: In progress. Everyone please fill out this form!

Your Final Paper: Status Unknown.

There is almost nothing happening for the next week, specifically so that you can sit in the library and stress over your final paper. Good luck! Have fun!

Actually, there is stuff happening just not for us. Tomorrow is another Degree Day for Oxford students, so don't be surprised when you see them wandering around. Think of it as inspiration- they did it! You can do it!

On Thursday, August 3rd the Bread Loaf festivities begin! Here is everything you need to know:

The senior picnic is on Thursday August 3rd, at dinnertime, in Grove Quad. Despite the name, it is *not* just for seniors. All students are invited to attend! (And you should, because that's what we're having for dinner.) Family members are invited free of charge. The Lincoln staff is also invited so that we can celebrate them and all of their help this summer. Simon of Deep Hall is catering. Expect burgers, sausages, vegan meat items, salads, cheese, and of course, strawberries and cream. Oh, and Pimms Cups. If you haven't had a Pimms cup yet, that needs to be on your bucket list. (Or just your summer to-do list. No need to be morbid.)

Saturday August 5th will be full of festivities. Here's what will happen:

In the afternoon, probably around 2pm, there will be a brief commencement rehearsal. This is highly recommended for seniors, so that you know what to do, where to sit, etc. More information will be forthcoming.

Approximately 30 minutes before the ceremony the gowning will begin in the JCR. This is where seniors put on their gowns, which we have hired for you specifically according to the height information you provided via google survey. Your gown is open in the front, so don't think you can pull off that hilarious graduation stunt where you are naked under your robe. That would just be uncomfortable for everyone.

Apart from wearing clothing, there are no specific rules for graduation attire. Unlike a regular Oxford ceremony, you will not be ejected for wearing colorful socks. (This is the freedom that we fought for in the Revolutionary War. I hope it was worth it.) But of course, know that whatever you wear will be in graduation pictures for ever and ever, including collages that the google photos bot makes and recommends to you at random intervals for no discernable reason for the rest of your life.

Once everyone is dressed, they will process into the chapel for the ceremony. Non-seniors are invited to attend the graduation ceremony, but we ask that you kindly allow the relatives of seniors to take priority in seating. During the ceremony there will be several speeches full of insight and wisdom, and each graduate will be hooded with a blue MA hood.

After the ceremony, seniors get to walk on the grass and their parents get to take pictures of them walking on the grass. This usually takes about fifteen minutes before it starts to get old, but it's fun while it lasts.

Then we all go to the super-secret secure location for a drink or two or three. (The location is the Rector's garden, which you can otherwise see by sticking your head very far out of the window of the Bread Loaf office bathroom. Anyone who has to leave early is welcome to try this before you go. It's a nice garden.) Everyone is invited for drinks, which may include more Pimms.

At 7pm, dinner is served. All Bread Loaf students are invited to attend, free of charge. This is your last formal dinner, so you might as well! However, please note that we make a seating plan for the entire hall, not just the high table. So **please do RSVP**, and please do let us know who you want to sit next to. And if you don't like who you are sitting next to, please don't make a face or yell "Eww, Ms. Zdyrko, you have to change my seat, I *can't* sit next to *her*!" We don't respond to those requests during the months of July and August.

Seniors, you will automatically be seated next to your guests (we presume you like them?) You do have to pay for your guests' dinners, in cash, in the office, ahead of time. Each guest is £41.50. It may seem pricey, but it's four courses and a truly large amount of alcohol. (If you *don't* like your guests, maybe some wine will help.)

After dinner, everyone is invited to Deep Hall, because you may not have had enough to drink yet. And then you have to leave Sunday morning at 10am! You're going to feel great.

Some other stuff you should know about the end of term…

Before you leave, it would be nice to tip your Scout to acknowledge their work over the summer. £15-20 is the usual recommendation. You can leave the money in your room or bring it to the housekeeping office in Staircase 8.

Eventually, you can bring back the stuff you borrowed from us. For example, that fan that you probably haven't used in the last four weeks.You can also donate items that you don't want to schlep home and we'll make them available to future loafers. (For some reason, nobody donated laundry detergent last year, but *everyone* donated a yoga mat. Maybe they were all hippies or something?) We can't wait to see what you donate so we can jump to conclusions about *you* too!

OK! Now that we've overwhelmed you with information about the end of term, you can ignore all of it for another week and go write your paper instead.

Or, if you're looking for another reason to procrastinate, check out this super special trippy edition of the Paniculum, brought to you from ChatGPT. (Thanks for the idea, Jeri)

T H E P A N I C U L U M

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No 11, Monday the 31st of July, 2023

Calendar:

Monday, July 31st	5:15pm BLTN Meeting
Tuesday, August 1st	No special events, but wtf how can it be August?
Wednesday August 2nd	Still August. Write your paper.

To inspire you as you write your final paper, we'll start today with a list of **Notable Lincoln College Graduates!**

Rachel Maddow went here.

Dr. Seuss did too! (Wow, look at all of us Americans, here at Lincoln)

Rishi Sunak is not American, but now Lincoln can claim a Prime Minister. And even though he was almost certainly not a classmate of Rachel Maddow, we wish they would run into one another at reunion, because it would be fun to watch.

Philip May was not Prime Minister, but he did marry one.

John LeCarre went here, and apparently based one of his characters on the rector. After explaining this, Wikipedia reports, "There is little evidence to substantiate the college's reputation as a recruiting ground for spies."

Just a thought: Maybe there is little evidence because they are all just really really good spies. Let's add **Really Good Spies** to the list. Shhh.

There is almost nothing happening for the next three days, except for stuff that you need to get done. For example, your final paper. Also, your final survey which tells us about your end-of-term plans. And of course, all the money you owe us for commencement-related festivities and t-shirts.

On a related note, t-shirts are here! Pick them up in the office and pay in cash. British cash only.

There is going to be construction in the library soon, so there may be some noise this week. Lucy says they are going to try to do it in the latter half of the week, so you still have no excuse to not write your paper.

We still have Bread Loaf patches and coloring books. They are free, although a significant number of people have tried to pay for them. We also have a dwindling supply of soap.

And now, just so you don't forget, we'll give you the TLDR version of last week's commencement rundown:

Thursday August 3rd is the senior picnic. Dinnertime, Grove Quad. Everyone is invited, no charge.

Saturday August 5th is the big day for seniors. Your gown has been ordered, and you don't have to wear a silly hat. The ceremony will be in the chapel, followed by grass-walking and drinks in the Rector's Garden. And (exciting update) **it will be livestreamed!** (The ceremony part, not the drinks part.)

Dinner is at 7pm. It's free for all Bread Loaf students! (And by "free" we mean "included in the price of tuition.") **Please RSVP**. Guests cost 41.50 in pounds, which we cannot appropriately notate because we are using our American laptop computer to write this. Please just imagine the little curly pound sign before the 4.

After that, everyone goes to Deep Hall to celebrate and leaves Sunday morning just as the hangover is really kicking in.

That's it for today. You're almost there, everyone. If Dr. Seuss can do it, so can you.

T H E P A N I C U L U M

Final Edition 😕

Bread Loaf School of English at Lincoln College, Oxford

Vol. 43, No 12, Thursday the 3rd of August, 2023

Calendar:

Thursday, August 3rd	6:30pm Senior Picnic, Grove Quad
Friday, August 4th	10:30am Graduation Rehearsal
Saturday, August 5th	4:30pm Gowning, JCR
	5:00 Commencement Ceremony, Lincoln College Chapel
	5:45ish Drinks Reception, Hopefully Rector's Garden
	7:15 Dinner, Hall
Sunday, August 6th	10:00am Departure

The senior picnic is happening tonight. Grove Quad if it doesn't rain, Deep Hall if it does. (My weather app does not predict rain for tonight, but Jeri's does. And it's England, so why are we bothering to make predictions anyway?) Simon is preparing the grill, and we hope to see you there. We will also be celebrating the Lincoln staff, who are joining us.

Speaking of Lincoln staff, we recommend that you **leave a tip for your scout** when you go. £20 is our recommendation. (They cleaned your bathroom all summer long!)

We still have some t-shirts and tote bags so if you haven't picked up your order, please do so!

Commencement is Saturday! We have already given you an excessive amount of information about it, and asked you for an excessive amount of information in return. So we'll refrain from repeating things. But **here is some new information:**

Commencement rehearsal will be on Friday August 4th at 10:30am. Seniors, please meet at the chapel to experience a brief walk-through of the ceremony.

The ceremony will be livestreamed! The link was posted on BreadWeb, but here it is again, just in case. Let your family members know they can start watching at 11:30 EDT/4:30 BST, but the ceremony will begin at 12:00/5:00pm. Ceremonial organ music will begin at approximately

4:45pm. Attendees, be aware that people all over the world will be watching you watch the ceremony, so don't do anything embarrassing.

The commencement seating plan has been finalized. We tried to honor all requests to the best of our ability. And if you didn't RSVP, we gave you an assigned seat just to be safe. (There are only a few of you, and you're all sitting together in the phantom section next to the ghost of Banquo. If you don't show up, we'll let him eat your vegetable wellington.)

We still have Bread Loaf patches and coloring books. Additionally, as people slowly leave campus our supply of shampoo, conditioner and soap has started to grow again. We expect you all to smell wonderful on Saturday- you have no excuse not to. Also,the donated items of the summer seem to be band-aids (excuse me, *plasters*) so we're here for you if your commencement shoes cause blisters. (Seriously, what have you all been doing to yourselves?)

On a related note, if you've acquired too much stuff this summer, you may want to ship some of it home. Ryman Stationery on Queen Street has a DHL office upstairs that ships by volume, not weight, so you'll know upfront how much it will cost. (It will still cost a lot. But you'll just know about it upfront.)

If you still have stuff you can't fit in your bag, you can bring it to us. We know some of you borrowed fans (haha) and teakettles, so please bring them back when you have a chance. And of course, feel free to donate other items to future loafers, including books, hair dryers, plasters, or any other miscellaneous stuff that might come in handy.

The only thing you should not bring us is your fob. Instead, you can give that to the porter on your way out. You don't actually have to come see us before you leave, but you definitely can if you want to say goodbye.

And finally, as we wish you all farewell, here it is, **the story you've been wondering about all summer: The Legend of the Lincoln Imp.**

Don't feel like clicking a link? Here's the short version:

The Devil sent two imps to earth, where they immediately starting wreaking havoc on Lincoln Cathedral, which is in the city of Lincoln, not Lincoln College. An angel came to scold them, much like Bob the porter telling noisy students to stop carousing in Grove Quad. One of the imps hid, but the other one got mad and started throwing stones at the angel, who promptly turned it to stone. (Unfortunately Bob is not allowed to do this.) The other one escaped, but legend has it that it's windy outside the cathedral because the surviving imp is looking for his friend (and presumably stirring things up in the meantime.)

There is a stone imp at Lincoln Cathedral, but there is also one in Deep Hall. Ours may not be the original one, but it is still really creepy.